

peckers still linger in the northern part of Worcester County, Mass., and that a brood of young was seen there in the summer of 1887. Any doubt that may have existed as to whether these birds really breed in this region is now dispelled, for Mr. C. E. Bailey has sent me a set of four eggs which he took at Winchendon, May 17, 1890. The nest was about forty feet above the ground in a dead hemlock fully three feet through at the base and over seventy feet in height. Some photographs taken for me under Mr. Bailey's direction show that the tree stood in an opening surrounded by a dense forest of spruces. One of the Woodpeckers, sufficiently large and distinct to be easily identified with the aid of a magnifying glass, appears clinging to the trunk a few feet from the entrance to its nest. This opening, according to Mr. Bailey's description, was of sufficient size to admit the hand and arm, so that no preliminary cutting was necessary in order to reach the eggs.

When the nest was first discovered both birds were in it together, but on the following day when the eggs were taken the male was away, and did not appear until his home was invaded. He watched the movements of the enemy from a safe distance, relieving his mind, meanwhile, by "talking a good deal." The female parent, on the contrary, showed marked devotion to her eggs. After being again and again driven from the nest by violent pounding at the base of the tree, she would quickly return; and even after the eggs were removed she entered the nest and remained within for some time, peeping out every now and then as if seeking some trace of her lost treasures.

After the nest was robbed, the pair disappeared for a few days, but returned about July 1, and a week or so later (I have been unable to obtain the exact date and particulars) Mr. Bailey took a second set of four eggs from the same hole.

In the eggs of the first set incubation had progressed several days, showing that probably the full number had been laid. They measured respectively: 1.34×1.00 , 1.28×1.00 , 1.27×1.00 , and $1.22 \times .97$ inch. In shape they are full, somewhat elliptical ovate. Save that they are larger and have an even higher polish, they closely resemble the eggs of *Colaptes*, showing the same conspicuous pits or pores.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Melanerpes aurifrons in Young Co., Texas, in 1878.—In 'The Auk' for July, 1889 (Vol. VI, p. 238) Mr. E. M. Hasbrouck notes the northern limit of range of *Melanerpes aurifrons*. It would appear from the following extract from 'Science News' of Sept. 13, 1879, that the range of the species was considerably farther north than Eastland County in 1878.

"I have had an opportunity of noting the eastern and northern limit of the Yellow-faced Woodpecker of Texas and have found it to range considerably further north than I expected. This species first attracted my attention between Austin and San Antonio, in Comal County, and about two hundred miles from the Rio Grande. West of San Antonio it became more plentiful and seemed to be inspecting the cedar telegraph poles, with

a view to nest-building. Those poles being longer and larger than the mesquite timber, which abounds along the road from San Antonio to Castroville in Medina County, seem to offer better facilities for nesting than the small short trunks of the mesquite. From Medina County we traced the species northeasterly to the Colorado River, in San Daba County, about one hundred and fifty miles. From this point to Gainesville, Texas, some two hundred miles northeast, we did not encounter the species, and there seems to be a narrow belt of neutral land between the eastern range of the Yellow-faced Woodpecker and the western limit of its near relative, the Red-bellied Woodpecker.

"During the fall of the same year (1878) I started from Gainesville, Texas, and traveled a little south of west, and was surprised to find the species on the Brazos River, so far north. Traveling westward, we seemed to pass beyond the bird, as we did not see it in Taylor and Nolan Counties at all.

"On our return we noted the species again in the vicinity of the Brazos River still above where we crossed that river going out and near Fort Belknap. At this point it is only about forty miles from Red River; and the bird may be looked for on that stream, although Lieutenant McCauley does not mention it in his notes on the birds of the upper Red River.—*G. H. Ragsdale, Gainesville, Texas, Aug. 1, '79.*"

Eastland County lies south of $32^{\circ} 30'$ while Belknap is north of 33° .—*G. H. RAGSDALE, Gainesville, Texas.*

Notes on *Eugenes fulgens*.—This Hummingbird is a summer resident in the Huachuca Mts., Arizona. It arrives in May, but is nowhere plentiful until the mesquite shrubs begin to blossom, about the middle of June. From this time on during the entire summer one may observe on almost any hillside below the pine belt large clusters of bright red or yellow flowers spreading out from stalks ten or fifteen feet high. There are many varieties of this plant and all are favorite feeding resorts of the Rivoli Hummer. I have shot as many as a dozen in a day simply by sitting down and watching for them to come and feed. It is necessary to select a well-matured plant, and at the proper elevation, as well as in good surroundings of spruce pines. While feeding, these birds range from 4,500 to 8,000 feet altitude or up to the pine belt, their favorite grounds being where the pines end on the downward slope. Their flight is exceedingly rapid at times but they often fly slowly so that the wings can be easily seen during the beats. The noise made by this bird's wings during a rapid flight is not like the buzzing of the small Hummer's wings, the beats being more slow and distinct, without any buzzing noise.

Their note is a twittering sound, louder, not so shrill, and uttered more slowly than those of the small Hummers.

From July 5 to 9 I examined nine females; one had already laid and the others contained eggs that would probably have been laid within from one to four days. On July 10 my search for the nest was at last rewarded. The country I had explored was from 7,500 to 10,000 feet elevation,